

Categorical Exclusion

Wayne Taylor, dba —Alaska Kobuk Outfitters

Prepared by
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

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Chapter 1. Wayne Taylor, dba Alasak Kobuk Outfitters

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A. Background

BLM Office: Central Yukon Field Office

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: FF086668

Proposed Action Title/Type: 2930 Special Recreation Permit

Location of Proposed Action: BLM lands within Guides Use Areas 23–01 (Wulik River drainage) and 23–06 (Squirrel River drainage)

Description of Proposed Action: The applicant request to renew his Special Recreation Permit to lead guided hunting trips on BLM lands located in Guide Use Areas 23-01 in the Wulik River watershed and Guide Use Area 23-06 in the Squirrel River watershed. The total number of hunters will not exceed 15 clients per season with no more than six people in a camp at one time inclusive of hunters, guides, and support staff.

Species to be hunted include Moose, Caribou, and Grizzly Bear. Hunt dates are September 1 – October 15 or per State of Alaska hunting regulations. Occupancy of camps to set up and take down allow for use dates of August 15 – October 30 each year. Camps consist of one 12x15 weatherport tent and smaller personal tents for sleeping. Access to camps is by wheeled plan. Privies are dug away from water source and filled in at the end of each season.

Applicant has requested use of All Terrain Vehicles to support hunters with physical disabilities. Use of ATVs is restricted to gravel bars and river bottoms and not intended for any use except in support of disabled hunters.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Kobuk/Seward Peninsula RMP

Date Approved/Amended: September 4, 2008

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s): M-1: Goal Approved RMP page 31: “On BLM-managed lands, improve access to appropriate recreation opportunities, ensure a quality outdoor experience and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources, and provide for and receive fair value in recreation.”

C. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, or 516 DM 11.9 H; which states, “Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14

consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.”

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

I considered: the proposed action of providing access for Alaska Kobuk Outfitters, and find there is no potential for significant impacts to BLM lands in the Wulik or Squirrel River watersheds.

D. Approval and Contact Information

Nichelle W Jacobson
Manager, Central Yukon Field Office

Date

Contact Person

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